

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Robert H. DeBellis and Bernard F. Erlanger  
Serial No.: Not Yet Known  
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For : METHODS OF TREATING SICKLE CELL DISEASE

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Freda  
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
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SIR:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claims 8-13 and 17-19 under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1) as follows. A version of the amended claims marked to show the changes relative to the previous version thereof is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**:

- at
- 8. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the hemoglobin is Hemoglobin S.--
- 9. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the hemoglobin is Hemoglobin SC.--
- 10. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is an erythrocyte cell.--
- 11. (Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the suitable sample is a sample of erythrocyte cells.--
- 12. (Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the cell is present in a subject and the contacting is effected by